CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

25X1A COUNTRY Bulgaria REPORT NO. 6 March 1953 The City of Kharmanlii DATE DISTR. SUBJECT NO. OF PAGES 25X1A REQUIREMENT NO. RD DATE OF INFO. REFERENCES PLACE ACQUIRED 25X1C

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(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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General Characteristics of Kharmanlii

- Kharmanlii, which did not suffer any damage during World War II, was largely constructed according to a plan. There are three or four wide avenues which radiate from the center of the city. The avenues and streets are lighted by electricity.
- 2. The buildings in Kharmanlii are generally of one or two stories. Only the City Council building, among the official buildings, has three floors. Stone, brick, cement, and timber, are the construction materials used. The roofs are of the ordinary type and covered with red tiles, but the older houses have old style tiles.
- 3. There is a city park in Kharmanlii. It is near the railroad station. In 1949 a momunment was erected in this park, but informant did not know in whose memory or honor the monument was made.

Principal Buildings

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- 4. Kharmanlii is an okoliya center and accordingly has all the establishments which any okoliya center possesses. The City Administrative Council Building, with all its offices, is on the west side of the square in the center of the city. The Militia Center and the State Security are also on the square.
- 5. The barracks of the 12 Infantry Battalion are on the west of the city. These barracks consist of two or three buildings.
- 6. The Kharmanlii railroad station is on the east side of the city. The station is a building of medium size which has two floors. There are two small tracks and one main track. There is no railing around the station area.

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Electrification

7. There is no electric center in the city. The current comes from Dimitrovgrad and is distributed from a transformer station in the east of the city. There are no restrictions on the consumption of electricity.

Press and Propaganda

- 8. There is no newspaper published in Kharmanlii. On the large streets, loudspeakers have been erected so that the people may listen to radio broadcasts. Some of the Kharmanlii residents own foreign radios with which they listen to foreign broadcasts, but anyone caught listening is sent to a forced labor camp.
- 9. There are two movie houses in Kharmanlii. One is to the west of the city and the other is near the railroad station.

Freedom of Movement

he had never seen any militia patrols in Kharmanlii. Furthermore, there are no frontier troops or frontier militia either in the city or in its vicinity. It is, however, necessary to carry one's identification card and to obtain a travel permit when leaving the city to travel in the direction of the frontier. Those travelling in other directions do not need travel permits provided they carry their identification cards.

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